

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.(Currently Amended) A medical filter for therapeutic treatment of a patient, comprising: a first and second end defining a longitudinal axis; more than one pair of ribs extending between the first and second ends, the ribs tending to resiliently expand in radially outward directions from a compressed initial shape to an expanded deployed shape; wherein in the compressed initial shape, the ribs each follow a path substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis; wherein in the expanded deployed shape, the ribs each follow an undulating path, such that a first portion of each pair of ribs extends substantially adjacent to each other for a distance from the first end, and a second portion of each pair of ribs extends substantially adjacent to each other for a distance from the second end, in the second portion the pair of ribs are configured as a disconnected parallel structure such that the ends of the ribs touch one another but are separable; and an intermediate portion of each one of a pair of ribs tends to curve away from each other in the expanded deployed shape; wherein in the expanded deployed shape, the filter defines a first and second filtering portion near the first and second end, respectively with a central section therebetween, the medical filter being formed from a single thin walled tube, the medical filter being configured for long term implantation in a patient via complete separation from a delivery catheter such that the delivery catheter may be removed, the medical filter also comprising means for capture and removal via a catheter ~~after the medical filter becomes endothelialized,~~ the filter being sized for use in the vena cava.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The filter of claim 1, wherein in the expanded shape, a central portion of each rib

tends to extend parallel to the longitudinal axis.

4. (Original)The filter of claim 1, wherein the filter has at least three pairs of ribs.

5. (Original)The filter of claim 1, wherein the filter has six pairs of ribs.

6. (Original)The filter of claim 1, wherein the filter is made of nitinol.

7. (Cancelled)